Vancouver metro

THURSDAY, MAY 4, 2017

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LIVE-STREAMED MURDERS, SEXUAL ASSAULTS, SUICIDES Facebook just hired 3,000 to counter this disturbing trend — but who will look out for their mental health? **metroVIEWS**

Vancouver metro

Your essential daily news | THURSDAY, MAY 4, 2017 | High 17°C/Low 14°C Sunny

After latest injury, Sid should start thinking retirement: Top doc
metroSPORTS

FAMILIES FIRST TO FLEE

Decrease in children a sign Vancouver housing is out of reach for parents, census shows
metroNEWS

Sarah Simon, husband Julien and their five-month-old daughter Chloe enjoy some family time in their new living room at their Kamloops home.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Average cost of west-side condo nears $1M

HOUSING CRISIS

They're going for more than $100K over asking price, realtors say

Jen St. Denis
Metro | Vancouver

After a heated four months for condos and townhouse sales, the average sales price for a condo on the west side of Vancouver is now nearly $1 million.

The market conditions have started to feel familiar to Vancouver realtor Steve Saretsky, echoing the fever pitch of 2016 before the market cooled off abruptly following the introduction of a 15 per cent foreign buyer tax in Metro Vancouver. Condos have been quicker to recover than single family houses.

"It's really frustrating for buyers," Saretsky said. Multiple bids are common, which Saretsky believes is a key factor in pushing up prices.

"I've had a few (clients) make a couple bids and get outbid and then take a step back and exit the market. You're at the mercy of the seller."

Another realtor, Geoff McLennan, recently highlighted the condo craze in his newsletter.

"The insanity of multiple offers that we saw in houses last year has come to condos and most are selling in one week well over the asking price," he wrote. He described two recent sales in New Westminster, which has become a particularly hot area for condos: a one-bedroom that sold for $100,000 over-asking and another that sold for $50,000 over.

In April the average price for a condo in Vancouver West rose to $969,579, compared to $572,000 for Vancouver East. Saretsky said that 73 per cent of April condo sales were located in Vancouver West, which includes condo-heavy areas like downtown.

The Real Estate Board of Greater Vancouver prefers to use a measurement called the benchmark price, which the board says more closely represents a typical housing unit. The April benchmark price for Vancouver West condos was $718,400 and $480,300 for Vancouver East.

Saretsky said most of the buyers he's seeing are local first-time buyers or baby boomers who are leveraging their home to buy an investment property. The number of condos being put on the market remains low, frustrating the high demand, although Saretsky said listings have begun to pick up as the market heads into the busy spring season.

Last December, the B.C. government introduced a controversial down payment loan for first-time homebuyers, which many economists warned would push prices higher. While Saretsky has heard of several buyers using the program, he said it's unclear whether it's having an effect on prices.

On May 2, Metro profiled Lucas Mitchell, a Vancouver homeowner who took advantage of the government down payment loan to move from a $1,550 a month rental apartment to a condo, where he now pays $3,000 a month for his mortgage and strata fees.

Saretsky, who is concerned about the high amount of household debt Canadians are carrying, wondered whether that kind of decision will "ripple through the economy."

"That's a huge jump in the cost of living," he said. "That guy just lost $1,550 a month to spend on restaurants and clothes. Yikes."

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metro NEWS
Your essential daily news

Member of mobster family shot to death outside home. **Canada**

2016 CANADIAN CENSUS

Boomers may be 'cashing out'

DEMOGRAPHICS

Number of kids under 15 and 35-44-year-olds in city drops

Jen St. Denis
Metro | Vancouver

High-priced Vancouver continues to lose children and their parents, Statistics Canada's latest census release shows — but the city has no problem attracting 20-somethings.

"For the City of Vancouver, we do have this bright lights, big city effect," said Andy Yan, an urban planner and director of Simon Fraser University's city program.

"People in their 20s are moving into the city for school or to start their careers. But where people are leaving is when they hit that 35-44 age group."

Between 2006 and 2016, 25-34 year olds increased 21 per cent; children under 15 declined four per cent; and 35-44-year-olds decreased nine per cent.

Comparing the 2016 Census to the National Household Survey in 2011 shows the number of children dropped one per cent and 35-44-year-olds decreased three per cent.

But when it comes to the region as a whole — Vancouver and its surrounding suburbs — the census data shows Metro Vancouver is doing just fine when it comes to attracting young families, said Nathanael Lauster, a sociology professor at the University of British Columbia.

Number of children (age 0-19) in Metro Vancouver, according to the 2016 census. The darker the colour, the higher the number of children. ANDY YAN/SFU

The data shows growth in most age groups, with the highest growth in 13-17 and 18-22 categories, as well as people over 85. But there is one demographic that's leaving the region: the baby boomers. Lauster doesn't know for sure, but he says that decrease could be related to the "cashing out" phenomenon: boomers who sold their houses at the height the Metro Vancouver real estate market and left for other communities.

"The slow leak that we might be seeing in terms of baby boomers, to my mind that's the best indication that there might be something related to the housing market when it comes to age-related migration trends," Lauster said.

The City of Vancouver has identified the decrease of children and 30/40-somethings as a problem for the city and a sign that housing in Vancouver has become out of reach for families. It's one of the factors that went into the city's new housing plan, which focuses on creating more housing for lower and middle-income residents as well as families.

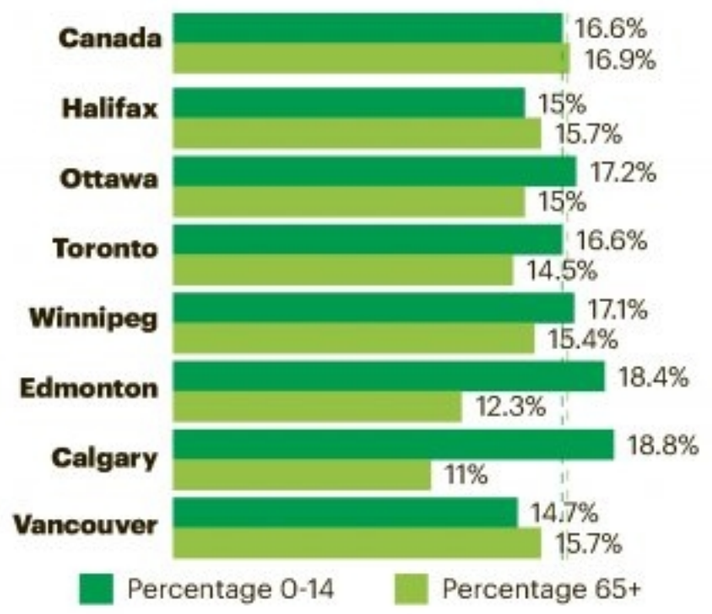
But there's another demographic group that has been growing dramatically in the city, and one that the City of Vancouver neglected to include in its analysis, Yan said.

While Metro Vancouver's population grew 16 per cent overall between 2006 and 2016, the over-65 cohort increased by 35 per cent.

The city left out both children under 15 and seniors over 65 when it did the analysis behind its new housing plan, Yan points out, arguing this has implications for housing since both those age groups have specific housing needs.

National numbers

The ranks of seniors grew by 20 per cent between 2011 and 2016. The census counted 5.9 million seniors and 5.8 million youth in 2016, marking the first time there were more Canadians over 65 than 14 and under. This does not hold true in some urban centres.



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Donation rules will sway vote, poll says

ELECTION

Two-thirds of respondents say big money buys influence

David P. Ball
Metro | Vancouver

Do big political donations curry favour with British Columbia's government?

Nearly two-thirds of voters apparently think so, according to a new Forum Research poll obtained by Metro — and the issue will affect the way 58 per cent of voters cast their ballots next Tuesday.

"That donations are still in the public's consciousness this deep into the campaign suggests none of the leading parties have developed a solution that's suitable to most voters," said pollster Lorne Bozinoff in a statement.

The results came as Elections B.C. revealed Wednesday the B.C. Liberals have quietly returned a total of almost $250,000 in improper donations since April, with $59,023 refunded to donors in the past week, and a further $109,715 of contributions having the donor's identity revised in records. (The NDP have returned $11,290).

The refunds came amidst an ongoing investigation by a special prosecutor and the RCMP's Sensitive Investigations Unit into allegations corporate donors were being concealed behind their lobbyists.

The B.C. Liberals have committed to reforms requiring parties to report their donors publicly in real-time, and promised an independent panel to review political donations in B.C.

The B.C. NDP and Greens have pledged to ban corporate and union donations entirely if they win on May 9, with the Green Party refusing such gifts unilaterally ahead of the election.

Forum's poll randomly surveyed 1,067 voters across B.C. using automatic phone Interactive Voice Response, over the last weekend. It had a margin of error of three per cent, 19 times out of 20.

$247,661

Improper donations returned by B.C. Liberals.

B.C. Liberal leader Christy Clark holds up a bottle of wine as she visits Kelowna's Grey Monk Winery on Wednesday. **The vineyard and its owners have donated $11,500 to her party since 2005.** THE CANADIAN PRESS

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OUR BUSINESS

A RECORD 22.3 MILLION PASSENGERS IN 2016—9.7% INCREASE

A big thank you to Air Canada, who accounted for 62% of our growth in 2016 with exciting new services including non-stop to Delhi and Brisbane on the Dreamliner aircraft.

2 NEW AIRLINES: Xiamen Airlines and Beijing Capital Airlines.

55 airlines serve YVR, connecting people and businesses to 125+ non-stop destinations worldwide.

YEAR	2016
Revenue (Millions)	489.7
Operating Expenses (Millions)	358.5
Ground Lease (Millions)	50.6
Excess Of Revenue Over Expenses (Millions)	84.0
Net Assets (Millions)	1,559.4
Capital Expenditures For The Year (Millions)	160.2
Passengers (Millions)	22.3
Aircraft Runway Take-Offs / Landings (Thousands)	280
Cargo Handled (Thousands Of Tonnes)	281.0

OUR COMMUNITY

We are committed to serving our region and we do this through a dedicated and diverse team, who live and work in our communities—and who give back, every day.

$1+ MILLION to community organizations

OUR ENVIRONMENT

Our Environmental Management Plan sets ambitious goals and 2020 targets to reduce emissions, waste and potable water consumption while improving ecosystem health. And in 2016 we achieved two targets—four years ahead of time.

51% WASTE DIVERSION RATE IN 2016

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OUR LEADERSHIP

The community appoints our Board of Directors, whose focus is to ensure that YVR serves the best interests of the public. Our Executive Team, led by President & CEO Craig Richmond, oversees our daily operations at YVR.

YVR.CA/2016

NOTICE OF ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING

May 11, 2017
East Concourse, Departures Level 3, YVR
3:00 p.m. Registration
3:30 p.m. Meeting begins

Join us at Vancouver Airport Authority's Annual Public Meeting to find out more about 2016 and our future plans.

Please submit advance questions to **community_relations@yvr.ca** by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 9, 2017 or via Twitter using #YVRAPM.

To view the complete 2016 Annual & Sustainability Report and learn more about how we report on our four pillars—Economic, Environment, Social and Governance—please visit **YVR.CA/2016**

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CUPE 1816

The working men and women who handle benefits for British Columbians.

cope 491

A solemn day in Fort Mac

WILDFIRE

Residents mark first anniversary of a tragedy

Residents leave messages of thanks during the anniversary of the wildfires in Fort McMurray, Alta., on Wednesday.
JASON FRANSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Residents of Fort McMurray marked the first anniversary of the wildfire that destroyed 10 per cent of the city with early-morning yoga classes, picnics by the river, visits with friends or — in some cases — nothing at all.

The fire in northern Alberta ignited deep in the bush on May 1, 2016, and exploded into a ferocious blaze that forced the evacuation two days later.

More than 80,000 people fled as towering flames licked at their homes and crackled along the only highway out of the city.

"Everyone needs to do their own thing to mark this day," said Melissa Blake, mayor of the Wood Buffalo regional municipality that includes Fort McMurray.

Blake said more and more rebuilt homes are springing up with the warm weather, but cautioned a full recovery will take years.

"If you drive through the neighbourhoods that were most impacted, you'll find a buzz of activity," Blake said Wednesday.

"However, these are still the early days of our recovery. We know that it's going to be a much longer process."

The majority of Fort McMurray was spared, but flames consumed nearly 2,600 dwelling units, which were mostly residential.

The municipality has said that as of April 27, 652 rebuild permits had been approved. Almost three dozen families moved into new homes as of last month.

Alberta Premier Rachel Notley said it was a day to mourn two young people who died in a highway crash as they fled — Emily Ryan, 15, and Aaron Hodgson, 19.

"We also mourn all that the fire took from people: their homes, their baby photos and all the belongings that helped to anchor so many cherished memories," she said. "People from the U.S. to China to Japan are inspired by you and inspired by the bravery, the strength and the resilience that this community did show and continues to show."

Firefighter Sam Samson, who dropped by with a group of friends, said it's been an emotional year. His wife, Marlene Gould, said the most stressful aspect was worrying about Samson.

"There were moments I thought I would never see him again," she said. "But we got through it. It's all good. We're safe. That's the main thing."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

HAMILTON, ONT.

Mob family member shot to death

A member of a notorious Ontario mobster family has been gunned down outside his home in what police are calling a targeted shooting.

Hamilton police said Angelo Musitano, 39, was shot multiple times as he sat in his pickup truck in his driveway in the community of Waterdown around 4 p.m. on Tuesday.

The suspect — described by police as a stocky man — took off in a dark sedan, police said. Paramedics took Musitano to the hospital, where he later died.

Det. Sgt. Peter Thom said Musitano was a member of a well-known crime family in Hamilton.

Musitano and his brother, Pat Musitano, were charged with first-degree murder in the 1997 deaths of Hamilton crime boss Johnny "Pops" Papalia, and his associate, Carmen Barillaro.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Floodwaters from Lake Ontario fill a yard along Edgemere Drive, in Greece, N.Y., this week. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lake flood, plan linked

NEW YORK STATE

New regs launched just before massive rainstorms

Four months after an international body approved a new plan to regulate Lake Ontario's water level, property owners who had claimed the rules favoured muskrat lodges over lakeside homes are piling sandbags against just the kind of floodwaters they had feared.

But a joint U.S.-Canadian commission says its new rules aren't to blame. It contends the lake is at its highest level in 24 years because of near-record spring rains.

Republican politicians who had lobbied against the regulations known as Plan 2014 are now calling on President Donald Trump to roll back the rules, which were promoted by environmentalists and adopted by the International Joint Commission in December after 16 years of study and discussion.

Democratic Gov. Andrew Cuomo travelled to the area Tuesday to get a firsthand look at the flooding that has affected hundreds of homes and businesses. He said the state is formally appealing to the International Joint Commission to release additional water through the Moses-Saunders Dam on the St. Lawrence River to lower Lake Ontario levels.

The commission must consider the impact of releases on downstream communities in Quebec, including the city of Montreal, where rain-driven flooding has prompted some evacuations.

Biologists say more naturally fluctuating water levels will help restore 64,000 acres of wetlands that are home to muskrats, spawning grounds for fish and natural buffers for storm surges. The plan is also expected to lengthen the boating season, rebuild dunes and generate more hydro power.

But the environmental benefits will happen gradually over a decade. Flooding is happening now. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANCE

Le Pen, Macron pull no punches in debate

Looking to land — but not receive — a knockout blow, French presidential candidates Emmanuel Macron and Marine Le Pen faced off Wednesday night in a high-stakes debate on live primetime TV.

Both candidates came out swinging, in their last best chance to plug their polar-opposite visions and plans for France to the cohort of undecided electors who could sway Sunday's vote.

Le Pen painted the former banker and economy minister as a servant of big business and finance, and declared herself "the candidate of the people, of the France that we love." He painted the far-right nationalist as an empty shell, shaky on details and seeking to profit politically from the anger of French voters — a dominant theme of the campaign. Trailing in polls, Le Pen needed a knockout blow in the debate to eat into Macron's lead. He topped round one, nearly three points ahead of Le Pen. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GLOBAL DIGEST

ITALY

Vaccine debate heats up

The vaccine debate is heating up as Italy deals with a measles outbreak, an anti-vaccine campaign and a scandal involving a nurse who claimed for years to have inoculated children but didn't.

Authorities are recalling up to 7,000 children in northern Italy to be revaccinated after determining some didn't receive the necessary doses. AP

MICHIGAN

Presidential centre renderings unveiled

The Obama Foundation unveiled plans for the former president's lakefront presidential centre in Chicago, including a tower-like museum.

"The Obamas want to create a safe, warm, inviting place that brings people in ... and inspires them to create change," said foundation chairman Marty Nesbitt. AP

WASHINGTON, D.C.

FBI director defensive

Under fire from Democrats and repeated questions from the Senate Judiciary Committee Wednesday, FBI Director James Comey insisted he was consistent in disclosing information about an investigation into Hillary Clinton's emails before Election Day while keeping quiet about a probe into possible contacts between Russia and the Donald Trump's campaign. AP

BRITAIN

May accuses EU of trying to influence elections

British Prime Minister Theresa May on Wednesday accused European Union officials of trying to influence the June 8 U.K. elections. Her comments follow leaked comments suggesting the EU thinks Britain is not facing reality about the conditions of Brexit. May vowed to be a "bloody difficult woman" in Brexit talks. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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PHILOSOPHER CAT by Jason Logan

CHANTAL HÉBERT ON THE END OF SUNNY WAYS IN OTTAWA

As Trudeau reaches the midpoint in his term, the shine has come off.

So much for sunny ways! As Justin Trudeau's government nears the halfway mark of its first mandate, finding some willingness to engage in adult conversation on either side of the House of Commons is almost as hard as it was on the worst days of the previous Conservative government.

Since the new year, the tone has steadily deteriorated, and if this week is anything to go by the climate is bound to become more toxic until Parliament finally breaks for the summer.

In question period, debate has essentially defaulted to a dialogue of the deaf that allows for little or no reasoned arguments. The opposition squawks loudly at a flock of government parrots.

This week the government rescheduled a Conservative opposition day from Thursday to next Monday. The official Opposition wants to use the time to turn up the heat on Defence Minister Harjit Sajjan for having aggrandized his role in the planning of a major military offensive in Afghanistan. Conservatives and New Democrats have spent the week calling for his resignation. The Liberals hope that by next week the story will have run out of steam.

All this is unfolding against the backdrop of a procedural war over a clumsy Liberal attempt to tweak some of the rules of the House to the government's advantage. Such is the bad blood between the opposition and the Liberals that when the latter waved a white flag and abandoned their most contentious proposals, none of the other parties would pause long enough to claim victory.

While the parties wrangle, the government struggles to advance its legislative agenda. Not that it is particularly impressive. The spring sitting will mostly be remembered for broken or missing-in-action Liberal promises.

Take Trudeau's commitment to give the Parliamentary Budget Officer more independence. The legislation brought forward by the government would instead further clip the already short wings of the PBO.

The malaise that has overtaken Parliament Hill has root causes on both sides of the House.

For all the talk about running a more collegial operation, Trudeau's government is as centralized as its predecessors. Nothing much happens without a green light from the PMO.

Since Donald Trump's election, Trudeau's inner circle has had its hands full trying to keep up with the changing moods of the American president. Just last week the prime minister's top aides — Katie Telford and Gerald Butts — flew to Washington in a hurry to take stock and, if possible, mitigate a Trump-induced NAFTA storm.

But while Trudeau's brain trust is watching the White House, it can't always have its eye on the many other balls that a cabinet dominated by political rookies is liable to drop.

Liberal strategists believe the price to pay for having dumped the commitment to change the voting system will not be high in the next election. Perhaps, but they may have underestimated the parliamentary cost of squandering a serious amount of opposition goodwill and trust in the process.

Trudeau's reversal accounts for part of the cement that binds the New Democrats to the Conservatives in the opposition battle against the Liberal rule changes.

With the election of Stephen Harper's successor less than a month away, the Conservatives are not looking to tie the hands of their next leader. While they pile on an embattled minister or engage in procedural warfare, they are spared having to come up with a caucus consensus on divisive issues like the future of Canada's supply management approach to dairy and poultry, or the government's cannabis legislation.

Over on the NDP side Thomas Mulcair's prolonged last hurrah as party leader is turning into an outlet for a lot of pent-up anger. Much of it is directed at Trudeau, a counterpart that Mulcair saw as a political weakling when they sat side by side in opposition and, by all indications, still sees him that way now that he is prime minister. The animosity between the two is not just for show.

With every passing week Mulcair's tone seems to become more strident — to the point that it sometimes overtakes the substance of his arguments. On Tuesday, the NDP leader had to apologize for calling Liberal House leader Bardish Chagger a buffoon.

As counterintuitive as it may seem, it may take the arrival of two permanent opposition leaders to bring a small measure of sunnier ways back to Parliament Hill.

Chantal Hébert is a national affairs writer. Her column appears in Metro every Thursday.

Watching out for Facebook's watchers

Vicky Mochama
Metro | Toronto

In response to a spate of murders, sexual assaults and suicides streamed on Facebook Live, the company will hire 3,000 more people to monitor content on the site.

It's necessary and should be applauded. But who will watch out for the watchers?

There is plenty that is troubling in the world, from gender-based violence to mental health issues, and these societal problems are finding an audience on Facebook.

Now it comes down to a couple thousand people working for companies we all know — Facebook, Twitter, Instagram — to see the worst so the rest of us don't have to.

Facebook already has 4,500 moderators. That's nearly a quarter of its workforce dedicated to reviewing the photos, comments and live videos of over 1.23 billion daily users.

The deluge isn't just celebratory parts of daily life — brunches, birthdays and bar mitzvahs — but traumas and terrors, too.

In Thailand, a man murdered his baby daughter before killing himself, all streamed live. A Nunavut man streamed his desire to die by police; he died hours later. And in Manitoba, a community is reeling after a teen girl was killed, and video appearing to show young people attacking the victim was shared repeatedly on the social network.

The volume of content is overwhelming. And increasingly, the people who delete objectionable content are overseas in places like the Philippines.

Facebook isn't the only company struggling to cope, and theirs won't be the only employees burdened by the work of keeping the Internet relatively clean.

While there is technology that identifies child pornography, its results must be verified by human beings.

In a case filed last December, two men are suing Microsoft for the PTSD and related mental health issues they say they are experiencing after moderating content for the company. Their task keeping violent images, especially child abuse, off the Internet has, they allege, made them unable to work and be functioning members of their families.

There isn't yet technology to remove the kind of violent and damaging live-streaming video that has been making headlines. Companies like Facebook have to rely completely on human staff.

Facebook does have a process to support content reviewers. But as it hires more people — and potentially, more overseas support in countries with less robust health services — it must ensure that the issues it's fighting online don't end up doing more harm in real life.

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metro LIFE

Your essential daily news

Paris Jackson, Michael Jackson's daughter, will make her movie debut in an as-yet-unnamed comedy

A new feminist creed for 2017

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie has been a rising feminist star in popular culture since her 2013 TEDx Talk, We Should All Be Feminists. CONTRIBUTED

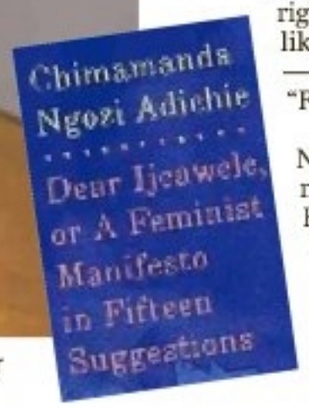
BOOKS

Chimamanda Adichie's new manifesto: 'Be a full person'

Sue Carter
For Metro Canada

Two weeks ago, at a panel at the Tribeca Film Festival, the cast of the new TV series The Handmaid's Tale was asked a question that set social media on fire: Did they think the show was feminist?

Answers ranged from dodging to denial, but ultimately it seemed no one on stage wanted their show — about a dystopian society where women have been stripped of their rights and are treated like breeding chattel — associated with the "F-word."



Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie has not yet watched The Handmaid's Tale. But as one of the world's most high-profile feminists, she is not surprised by the actors' reactions or distancing from the word, especially following the Trump election in the U.S.

As the Nigerian-American author of the critically acclaimed Half Of A Yellow Sun and Americanah, Adichie's name has become synonymous with that divisive F-word. Publicly, it started with her 2013 viral TEDx talk, We Should All Be Feminists. Two years later, a bestselling book form was published. Later, a sample from her talk made its way into Beyoncé's song Flawless. And that is how a feminist star is born.

Adichie's latest book, Dear Ijeawele, or A Feminist Manifesto in Fifteen Suggestions, started as a personal project for a friend seeking advice on how to raise her infant daughter. The slim book reads more like an intimate letter than a rigid manifesto, but Adichie had another purpose in mind while writing: "to reclaim the word feminism" from those who try to use it as a weapon, and for those who believe they don't fit into a prescribed version of what a feminist looks or acts like.

As the mother of an 18-month-old girl, Adichie believes the most difficult and important suggestion is the book's first, addressed to Ijeawele: "Be a full person."

Adichie considers herself a lifelong feminist, which she traces back in part to the influence of a strong grandmother and auntie in Nigeria. But she didn't learn the meaning of the word until she was a teenager and a boy dismissively called her one. Since she was a young child, she did know she wanted to be a storyteller, always seeking out quiet places to write. For her many fans, Adichie represents a new generation of activists, one that loves fashion and can become the face of a cosmetic line. One that fights against the exclusiveness of traditionally white Western feminism that dismisses anyone who hasn't read the right academic texts, says Adichie.

Declaring yourself a feminist can take its toll, as Adichie learned. She purposely limits her exposure to social media and clickbait. And there are the physical demands: "I get invited to every bloody feminist conference," she jokes. She doesn't resent her new role, but rather that it's necessary, and that it takes time away from her daughter and her much-needed writing time. "I'm still a storyteller primarily," Adichie says. "I know it sounds naïve, but I want to change the world. I want to make the word 'feminism' redundant, and the movement no longer needed."

Sue Carter is the editor at Quill & Quire magazine.

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metro HOME

Your essential daily news

Anish Kapoor's endless whirlpool in Brooklyn Bridge Park opened yesterday

MEET THE CONDO

Surrounded by award-winning amenities

Modena

CONTRIBUTED

Project overview

Modena is a four-storey condo development at 4295 Hasting St. in Burnaby featuring a total of 28 units with prices starting at $670,900. Development is scheduled for completion in winter/spring 2018, with sizes from 775 square feet.

Housing amenities

Burnaby Heights is a tight-knit community filled with award-winning mom and pop restaurants, local grocers, community parks and more. Modena is a block from Anton's Pasta Bar and close to local favourites such as Cioffi's Deli and Glenburn Confectionary.

Location and transit

Hasting Street is one of the most active in Metro Vancouver with frequent buses taking residents towards downtown Vancouver, Port Moody or South Burnaby. Brentwood and Gilmore SkyTrain Station are nearby, offering access around the region in under 30 minutes.

In the neighbourhood

Modena features large outdoor balconies with full overhead cover, offering year-round enjoyment even during inclement weather. There's also a rooftop terrace with large open space for entertaining or relaxation that has garden plots and an outdoor kitchen.

NEED TO KNOW

What: Modena
Developer: Citimark and Omicron
Designer: Chris Dikeakos Architects Inc.
Location: 4295 Hasting St.
Building: Four-storey condominiums
Models: One and two bedroom, plus den
Sizes: Starting from 775 square feet
Pricing: Remaining homes starting from $670,900
Status: Selling
Occupancy: Winter/spring 2018
Sales centre: 4295 Hastings St.
Phone: (604) 294-9919
Website: modenaburnaby.com

DECOR

Indoor plant trends taking root

From herb gardens to indoor trees, interior designers are increasingly bringing plants into their home design projects.

Plants are the piece that people always forget, says Massachusetts-based designer Kristina Crestin. They make a space feel finished but not over-accessorized, she says, and can solve a range of design challenges.

New York designer Young Huh agrees: A miniature tree can be the perfect addition where you need something tall and a flowering plant can bring a burst of colour. Plants also bring some unpredictability into otherwise meticulous, modern spaces.

Which plants are popular right now and what are the best ways to decorate with them?

Plants add drama, warmth. JARED KUZIA PHOTOGRAPHY VIA AP

Crestin, Huh and New York-based Lindsey Coral Harper offer their thoughts:

From delicate to bold

For several years, the it plant has been the fiddlefig tree (or fern). Their trunks are tall and graceful, with large glossy leaves creating a burst of green. Fiddlefigs are beautiful and easy to care for, Crestin says, so their trendiness shouldn't be a thing to avoid.

For something more sophisticated, Harper recommends "any type of boxwood or topiary," she says. "They also make wonderful hostess gifts."

Another current favourite: the staghorn fern, which has strong, sculptural leaves.

"Staghorn ferns are really interesting and very masculine to me," Harper says, and they look great "in a more rustic setting."

If you're seeking something delicate, Huh recommends a maidenhair fern. Upkeep is minimal and the intricate leaves are as pretty as a flowering plant. Another popular choice: miniature olive trees.

Hanging out

It's popular to hang planters on walls, or put up hanging terrariums with succulents or "air plants" inside, says Huh. These low maintenance plants only need to be misted, and "they stay alive forever," she says.

The challenge with wall-hung plants is that repeated misting may damage your walls, Crestin points out. So you may prefer to put those same kinds of plants in low-slung pots on a coffee table.

One plant all by itself can look a bit sad and lonely, so add several or place a single large one near a piece of furniture.

"I believe in repetition," says Crestin. For a recent design project, she added three items to one room — a fern in a low-slung bowl on a coffee table, a beautiful ceramic cup holding a delicate, mossy plant, and then a larger fern in another bowl.

Try to create a "triangle of green," she says, balancing one plant with another.

Kitchens and baths

Huh says many homeowners are buying wall-mounted growing systems or adding kitchen shelves specifically for potted herbs, berries and other plants grown for consumption.

She's also pleased to see plants being used in bathroom decorating: "My father used to grow orchids in the bathroom because they got moisture every day," Huh says. "It's a great place for ferns."

Know your space and habits

Even if you love something in a magazine or while shopping at a nursery, consider your particular space and habits.

"Think about how much sunlight, love and attention your plants might need," Harper says.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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metro SPORTS

Celtics star Isaiah Thomas — who had 53 points in Game 2 against the Wizards — says he's been getting tips from Kobe Bryant

NHL PLAYOFFS

Pens put Caps on the brink

GAME 4 In Pittsburgh

The Pittsburgh Penguins found a way to survive without injured star Sidney Crosby.

Marc-Andre Fleury stopped 36 shots and rookie Jake Guentzel took advantage of a fortunate bounce to earn his league-leading eighth goal of the playoffs and the defending Stanley Cup champions held off the Washington Capitals 3-2 on Wednesday night in Game 4 of the Eastern Conference semifinals.

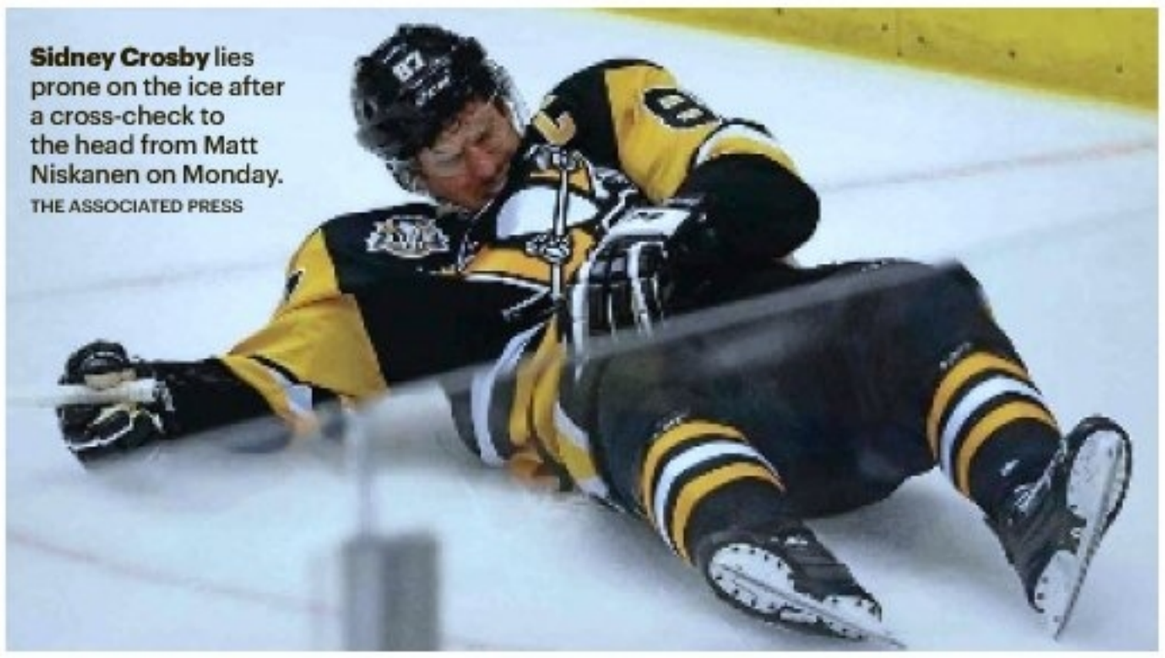
Justin Schultz scored in a second straight game and Patric Hornqvist picked up his third of the post-season as Pittsburgh took a 3-1 lead in the series.

Crosby is out indefinitely with a concussion suffered in Game 3. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Concerns mounting over Crosby's long-term health

CONCUSSIONS

Retirement a good play for Penguins star, experts suggest



Sidney Crosby lies prone on the ice after a cross-check to the head from Matt Niskanen on Monday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Concussion specialists say the time may be approaching for injured Pittsburgh Penguins superstar Sidney Crosby to take a hard look at not when — but if — he should return to the game.

"When there have been multiple concussions, the chance of having persisting symptoms goes up terrifically," said Dr. Charles Tator, the director of the Canadian Concussion Centre at Toronto Western Hospital. "So we're especially careful about helping people avoid further concussions.

"If he were an amateur, we would probably tell him to hang up his skates."

Crosby suffered what's believed to be the fourth concussion of his career Monday night against the Washington Capitals. His return date is uncertain.

Crosby was out of action for almost a year after suffering a pair of head injuries in early 2011. He suffered another concussion last October but only missed two weeks of action.

Having suffered at least four concussions himself, former NHL forward Keith Primeau has a good idea of what Crosby is going through.

Head injuries eventually forced Primeau from the game in 2006. He had tried for over a year to get back in the Philadelphia Flyers lineup but was eventually told that it would be best if he stopped playing.

Primeau retired a month later.

"If I knew then what I know now, the ultimate decision would have been for me to call it quits earlier," Primeau said Wednesday. "But there was no chance that I was ever going to do that. How do you convince somebody? You're playing a little bit of Russian roulette."

Dr. Paul Echlin, a primary care sports medicine specialist in Burlington, Ont., and past chair of the London Hockey Concussion Summit, said a fourth concussion is very concerning. At that point, Echlin said, long-term effects need to be considered.

"This is a young man's life ... this is a human issue," he said. "It's not about whether the Pittsburgh Penguins advance in the playoffs or what the matchups are."

It's unclear whether Crosby will be able to return for the second-round series or at any point in the post-season.

"He's a world-class player," said former teammate Tanner Glass, a forward with the New York Rangers. "There's no way to replace him in your lineup. He's a leader too. He's a leader in that room. He's a guy everyone looks to when times get tough to lead the way. It's going to be tough to replace (him). You never like to see anyone (get) hurt like that." THE CANADIAN PRESS

4

Crosby's latest setback is believed to be the fourth concussion of his career.

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IN BRIEF

Canucks sign blue-liner Pedan to one-year deal

The Vancouver Canucks have re-signed defenceman Andrey Pedan to a one-year, two-way contract.

Pedan, 23, appeared in 52 games with the American Hockey League's Utica Comets last season, recording five goals, five assists and 100 penalty minutes.

The six-foot-five, 218-pound defenceman made his NHL debut with the Canucks in 2015-16, playing 13 games and recording 18 penalty minutes. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Orlando felled by Giovinco

Sebastian Giovinco scored two first-half goals and Toronto FC hung on for a 2-1 victory Wednesday that snapped Orlando City's four-game win streak. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Juventus beats Monaco on counter attack

Record-signing Gonzalo Higuain scored two opportunistic goals and veteran goalkeeper Gianluigi Buffon made some crucial saves as Juventus won 2-0 at Monaco to take a commanding lead from the first leg of their Champions League semifinal on Wednesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Woman hit by stray bullet at Cardinals game

Police are investigating after a woman attending a St. Louis Cardinals baseball game at Busch Stadium was struck by a stray bullet.

Police say the 34-year-old victim felt pain in her arm and went to a first-aid station for treatment. A bullet was later found near her seat. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MAKE IT TONIGHT

Simple Egg Drop Soup

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

You can serve this tasty and healthy soup as a starter or on its own when you feeling like eating light.

Ready in 20 minutes
Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 10 minutes
Serves 4

Ingredients
- 4 cups (950 ml) low sodium chicken broth
- 1/2 cup (120 ml) chopped asparagus
- 2 Tbsp (30 ml) unsalted butter
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) chopped onion
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) fresh grated Parmesan cheese, extra for garnish
- sea salt and pepper to taste

Directions

1. In a large pot, place butter, asparagus and onion. Saute until vegetables are soft, but crisp. Add broth and bring to a simmer, allow to simmer for 5 minutes.

2. Meanwhile, beat eggs and add Parmesan cheese. Then drizzle eggs into broth. Lightly stir until eggs are cooked. Lower heat and allow to cook another 5 minutes.

3. Ladle into bowls, sprinkle top with Parmesan and serve.

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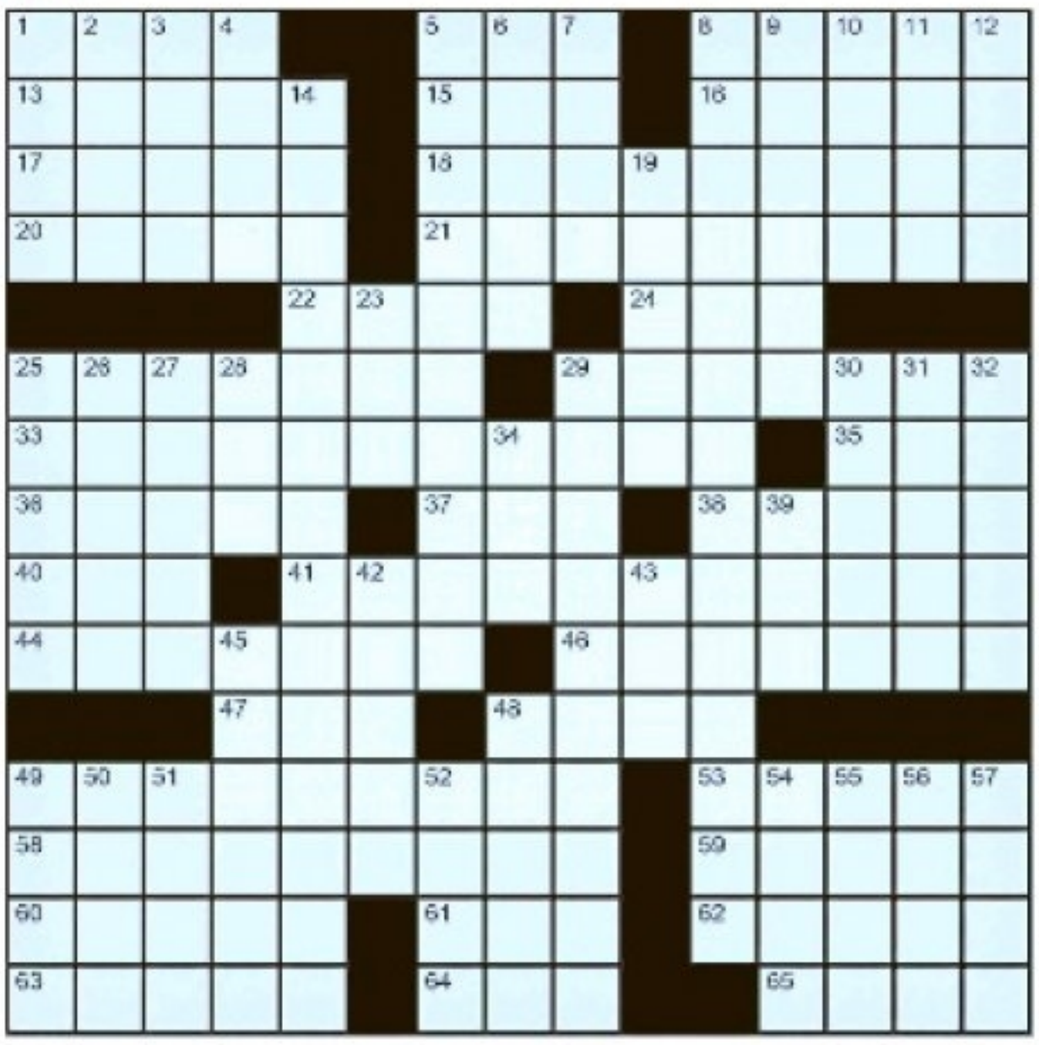
CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Nautical hook
5. 1998: "Doo _ (That Thing)" by Lauryn Hill
8. Wetland
13. Rig out
15. 'Capital' suffix (Profit)
16. Ms. Reid's
17. Countrified
18. Thwarters/skeptics
20. Mediterranean island
21. Makes more noise than the other noises: 2 wds.
22. "Ick."
24. Yalie
25. Old Testament book
29. "I've _ _!" (This is a scam!)
33. 1860: It's the oldest building still standing in Saskatchewan, _ _ Anglican Church
35. 'To hear' in Spain
36. Surf, _ _ wave
37. Deorbited space station
38. Jovial
40. 'Capri' suffix
41. "Ordinary Day" band from Newfoundland: 3 wds.
44. Artistically cultivated garden sights
46. Scaring-sounding snakes, say
47. Trendy
48. Goes bad, as food
49. Event planner
53. Little land form on water
58. Magazines/papers selling spot
59. _ oil
60. "Dancing with the Stars" alum Ms. Sliwinska
61. Maiden name indicator
62. 'frisco footballer
63. Bombardier's 3-wheel motorcycle, _-_ Spyder
64. "_ out!" (Ump's call)
65. Curls-from-a-box

DOWN
1. Wheat _
2. Ocean's blue hue
3. Roll up a flag
4. Automaker of Italy
5. Lovely sounders of the porch: 2 wds.
6. Arkansas/Missouri/Oklahoma: _ Mountains
7. The Smurfs creator
8. Northern community on the Churchill River where #33-Across is located: 2 wds.
9. Methods of entering a building: 2 wds.
10. 'Mars'-meaning prefix
11. Designation in the name of merchant ships of Japan meaning 'circle'
12. "Hey..."
14. It was never quite said this way in "Casablanca" (1942): 4 wds.
19. Angelic
23. 'Jag' add-on (Big spotted cat)
25. Laura stretched out this catchphrase on "The Dick Van Dyke Show": 2 wds.
26. Librettist for Verdi's 1893 opera Falstaff, Arrigo _
27. Astronaut Neil Armstrong's middle name
28. Hair hue-er
29. Only child, oldest, middle or youngest refers to what?: 2 wds.
30. Rancher's ride
31. Ventilator
32. _ _ a bone
34. Ms. Peeples
39. For instances [abbr.]
42. Little Richard's "_ _ Up"
43. Fragment
45. Soft drink brand
48. Ms. Zellweger
49. What 'CANADA' has in its spelling: wd. + letter
50. Hester Prynne's stigma: wd. + letter
51. Ms. Paltrow, briefly
52. Whacky
54. Faux pas
55. Wrinkle
56. "By any chance?"
57. Condition

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
Be patient today, especially with coworkers. And also be patient with your pets, as strange as that might sound. This is because late in the day and into the evening, it will be easy to become angry.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Parents will have to be patient with their kids today, especially late in the day, because arguments can arise easily. Likewise, romantic spats might take place between lovers.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Life is easier if you maintain peace at home. Don't make a big deal about anything today, especially with a female family member. By evening, people are touchy and edgy.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Today you are more inclined to go with your hunches and your feelings instead of your logic. However, this might make you overreact to something this evening because your feelings are strong. Use caution.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Quarrels about money or possessions might take place late in the day. Don't get sucked into this; it's a brief influence — let it pass.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Today the Moon is in your sign, which can make you more emotional than usual. By evening, it is at odds with fiery Mars, which can promote arguments. Be patient.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
This is a good day for research. In particular, you will pay attention to detail. Ignore feelings of frustration late in the day.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You might have difficulty with a female acquaintance or friend this evening. Don't let anything get out of hand. Keep things light.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Difficulties with a boss or parent might occur late today or this evening. Be tolerant and patient, because you have to deal with these people every day.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Avoid controversial subjects like politics, religion and racial issues today, because they will develop into arguments by evening. Who needs this? Not you.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Disputes about shared property, taxes, debt and inheritances might take place today, especially tonight. Don't let this ruin your evening. Keep smiling.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
You have to go more than halfway when dealing with others today, because the Moon is opposite your sign. Don't get sucked into an argument this evening.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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	7		3			6		
		2		7		9		

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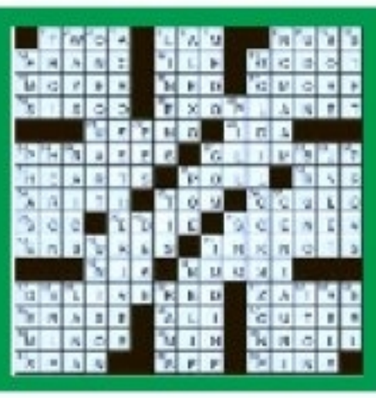

8	4	3	5	1	9	7	2	6
6	5	1	2	7	4	3	9	8
9	7	2	3	6	8	1	5	4
4	6	7	9	3	1	5	8	2
5	1	9	4	8	2	6	7	3
2	3	8	6	5	7	4	1	9
1	2	4	7	9	6	8	3	5
7	9	5	8	4	3	2	6	1
3	8	6	1	2	5	9	4	7

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